



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

Lupus Day

WHEREAS, lupus is an autoimmune disease that can cause severe damage to the tissue and organs in the body and, in some cases, death; and

WHEREAS, more than five million people worldwide suffer the devastating effects of this disease and each year over one hundred thousand young women, men and children are newly diagnosed with lupus, the great majority of whom are women of childbearing age; and

WHEREAS, medical research efforts into lupus and the discovery of safer, more effective treatments for lupus patients are under-funded in comparison with diseases of comparable magnitude and severity; and

WHEREAS, many physicians worldwide are unaware of symptoms and health effects of lupus, causing people with lupus to suffer for many years before they obtain a correct diagnosis and medical treatment; and


WHEREAS, there is a deep, unmet need worldwide to educate and support individuals and families affected by lupus; and

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need to increase awareness in communities worldwide of the debilitating impact of lupus; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee, Governor of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations do hereby proclaim May 10, 2012, as Lupus Day in Rhode Island and encourage all of its citizens to join me in recognizing the importance of this day.



Given under my hand and the great
seal of the State of Rhode Island
and Providence Plantations,
this 26th day of April, 2012


Lincoln D. Chafee
Governor


A. Ralph Mollis
Secretary of State